CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-8. (canceled)

1   9. (previously presented) A data input method comprising:

2   in a mark-up language-based browser, generating and displaying on a display

3 screen a graphical input device, the graphical input device being associated with an

4 input parameter and having a displayed data entry field of a first display width;

5   associating a current set of user-selectable choices with the graphical input

6 device, each user-selectable choice having at least one pair of information fields

7 separated by a delimiter and each information field comprising sequentially ordered

8 characters;

9   sensing user selection of the graphical input device;

10   upon sensing user selection of the graphical input device, displaying on the

11 screen a list of the user-selectable choices;

12   sensing user entry of a character sequence comprising at least one character;

13   sequentially and character-by-character searching of at least an initial information

14 field for each of the user-selectable choices according to each user-entered character;

15   for each character sequence of at least one user-entered character that matches

16 a corresponding character sequence in the initial information field of at least one user-

17 selectable choice, highlighting at least one of the matching choices for the user;

18   if no initial information field of the user-selectable choices has a character

19 sequence matching the user-entered character sequence, highlighting for the user at

20 least one user-selectable choice in a different information field whose initial characters

21 match the user-entered character sequence, whereby a matching user-selectable

22 choice can be located in more than one information field based on character-by-

23 character comparison with the same user-entered character sequence; and

24   upon sensing any acceptance action by the user, setting the input parameter to

25 the graphical input device to the currently highlighted user-selectable choice.

1 10. (previously presented) A data input method comprising:

2 in a mark-up language-based browser in a user's computer, generating and

3 displaying on a display screen a graphical input device, the graphical input device being

4 associated with an input parameter and having a displayed data entry field of a first

5 display width;

6 associating a current set of user-selectable choices with the graphical input

7 device, each user-selectable choice having at least one pair of information fields

8 separated by a delimiter and each information field comprising sequentially ordered

9 characters;

10 sensing user selection of the graphical input device;

11 upon sensing user selection of the graphical input device, displaying on the

12 screen a list of the user-selectable choices, the list having a second display width;

13 by executing a script locally, within the user's computer, automatically and

14 dynamically determining a minimum display width necessary to make visible a widest

15 one of the user-selectable choices and automatically setting the second display width to

16 be at least as great as the minimum display width, whereby the second display width is

17 a function of the choices in the current set and is expandable relative to the first display

18 width;

19 associating with the graphical input device at least one acceptance action;

20 sensing user entry of a character sequence comprising at least one character;

21 sequentially and character-by-character searching of at least an initial information

22 field for each of the user-selectable choices according to each user-entered character;

23 for each character sequence of at least one user-entered character that matches

24 a corresponding character sequence in the initial information field of at least one user-

25 selectable choice, highlighting at least one of the matching choices for the user;

26 if no initial information field of the user-selectable choices has a character

27 sequence matching the user-entered character sequence, highlighting for the user at

28 least one user-selectable choice in a different information field whose initial characters

29 match the user-entered character sequence; and

30   upon sensing any acceptance action by the user, setting the input parameter of

31   the graphical input device to the currently highlighted user-selectable choice.

1   11. (previously presented)   A data input method as in claim 10, further

2   comprising downloading code and data expressed in the mark-up language for

3   generating and controlling a screen display, the data including the current set of user-

4   selectable choices and the code including a portion intended to generate a downloaded

5   drop-down menu, in which:

6   the script is embedded in the downloaded code locally, that is, in the user's

7   computer, and is provided for generating and displaying the graphical input device in

8   place of the downloaded drop-down menu but as a non-menu, text-input graphic device

9   having the appearance of a drop-down menu.